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Rude Pravo.

SCORES FAILURE OF LARGE ENTERPRISES TO COOPERATE IN SCRAP METAL COLLECTION

Czechoslovak steel production in 1953 will be 42 percent higher than in 1950. This implies not only a rapid increase in the mining of iron ore but also an increase in scrap metal collection. In 1953, 2.7 times more iron ore will be mined then originally planned.

Scrap iron is needed in the manufacture of steel to replace raw materials for which only poor ores are available. Scrap iron and old metals are important materials in Czechoslovak metallurgy. Their collection and use makes it possible to increase and shorten the fusion process of steel and reduce the cost of production. To produce a ton of steel from iron ore, 2.5 tons of ore and 2 tons of high-grade coking coal are mecessary. In manufacturing steel from scrap iron, both coking coal and ore are unnecessary.

Czechoslovak metallurgical plants constantly require more scrap iron. The amount of scrap iron collected will have to be increased by at least 50 percent above that of last year. Up to now, scrap iron had to be imported in return for costly foreign exchange, although there is enough scrap iron in factories, shops, foundries, etc. In 1950 Czechoslovakia paid 20 to 24 US dollars for a ton of scrap iron and nearly 40 us dollars for broken iron castings.

Ten tons or one carload, of scrap iron are sufficient for the manufacture of 300 meters of tracks, or 5 tractors, or 1,660,000 meters of wire of a diameter of 1 millimeter, of 10,000 two-liter containers.

The scrap iron collection plan for the first 6 months of the year was fulfilled only 91.5 percent. In the case of nonferrous metals, the collection plan was fulfilled 106 percent.

Most enterprises do not fulfill the collection tasks, assigned to them by the State Planning Office. Among them are plants which make the greatest demands for the products of metallurgical plants but which are most inactive when it comes to assuring sufficient raw materials for Czechoslovak metallurgical

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plants. Such plants include the Czechoslovak Heavy Machine Building Factories whose general directorate allocated quantities of supplies to its own factories which could not possibly fulfill the plan. Likewise, the general directorates of the remaining machine building factories had the same improper attitude toward important tasks. All heavy industrial plants fulfilled the 5-month plan by only 78.7 percent, while transportation fulfilled its plan only 63.8 percent. This caused great economic losses within industry.

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